THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Protection to upcountry jute mills

1196. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that placement of DGS&D orders for supply of B. Twill bags are now connected to exports of Jute Goods;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which Government propose to protect the upcountry jute mills established for decades and developed for manufacture of sackings only meant for domestic consumption; and

(d) whether Government propose to exempt such upcountry jute mills from export commitments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to generate export of jute goods to General Currency Areas (GCA), Government has imposed export obligation on jute mills which are being provided with orders for supply of B. Twill bags to DGS&D under Palekar Pricing Formula. The scheme would be operated as follows:

(i) A portion of the indented quantity will be reserved for jute mills having GCA export of Rs. 5 crore and above in 1990-91 which undertake to achieve a minimum growth rate of 5 per cent in quantitative terms in 1991-92 over the level achieved in 1990-91.

(ii) The balance quantity would be allocated to all presently eligible jute mills subject to the condition that upto the end of 1991-92 i.e. March, 1992, non-exporting units would export not less than 3 per cent of their total production of jute goods either directly and/or indirectly to GCA and exporting units would achieve atleast 5 per cent growth in their export of jute goods to GCA in terms of quantity over the level reached in 1990-91.

(c) Jute mills not presently having any export production have been allowed the flexibility of procuring the goods from the market for fulfilling for condition of exporting 3 per cent of their production to GCA on their own account.

(d) Government will consider and take appropriate action when requests for exemption from export obligation are received from upcountry jute mills.

Malpractices in Sadar Bazar (Delhi) branch of Punjab and Sind Bank

1197. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Manager of the Sadar Bazar (Delhi) branch of Punjab and Sind Bank who was earlier transferred has been suspended for mismanagement and malpractices resulting in transfer of about rupees one crore and forty-six lakhs;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether all those responsible for this have been dealt with and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Forty fixed deposit receipts (FDRS) aggregating Rs. 1.02 crores (including interest) were released in the Sadar Zazar, Qutab Road branch of Punjab and Sind Bank on 15-5-91 by the branch manager inspite of advice of the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB) not to make payments since they were suspected to be in bogus names. The amount was withdrawn on 16-5-91 from the Savings Bank Accounts, opened on 15-5-91, to which these amounts were credited the same day by way of manager's cheques. The matter has been taken up by the Central Bureau of Investigation.

"Hazardous industrial units in Delhi"

1198. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of hazardous industrial units in Delhi at present; and

(b) what action Government propose to take against such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Delhi Administration have informed that 21 industrial units which could be termed as hazardous on the basis of quantity of chemicals manufactured, handled and stored by them have been identified in Delhi.

(b) Hazardous units have to comply with the rules made under the provisions of Factories Act, 1948 and also under the provisions of Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989 framed under the Environment (Protection) Act,1986. Some of these rules relate to the preparation of on-site and off-site plans, safety in transportation, disposal of wastes and effluents, precaution in case of fire, safety of health of workers, proper information regarding hazardous processes and hazardous operations etc. Action is taken against units violating such rules under the relevant provisions of the Acts.

Scheme to borrow gold from the public

1199. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to an article which appeared in the Business Times of the 11th June, 1991 captioned "Private Gold for Public Cash";

(b) whether Government propose to start a scheme to 'borrow' gold held by the public in the country and convert it into foreign exchange; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir, there is no such proposal at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Delay in the enactment of code on Infant Milk Food etc.

1200. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been receiving communications from paediatricians and other NGOs regarding delays in passing and enactment of code on Infant Milk Foods etc. which has been delayed since 1983 largely due to Gujarat lobby; and

(b) whether Government will ensure that the Bill is passed early?